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BOOK REVIEWS

THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE YEAR-BOOK, 1921. Edited by F. E. Pollard, Secretary to the National Peace Council, London. The National Peace Council, 72, 75, and 91 Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, Southampton Row, W. C. 1. 2s.

This well-known text of the peace movement is the eleventh issue, the last appearing in 1914. Besides the usual who's who and what's what of the peace movement, there are articles by Sir George Paish, Rev. Harold Buxton, C. Delisle Burns, and others. Here are statistics of war losses, costs, and debts, and a number of facts relating to the League of Nations and the labor office. Workers in the peace movement are under obligations to the National Peace Council for this additional service to the "great cause."

THE FIRST YEAR OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. By George Grafton Wilson. Little, Brown Company, Boston. Pp. 94. \$1.25.

This brochure by Harvard's professor of international law is the product of a man who believes in the League as a prophecy and who has worked for acceptance of it by the United States with reservations. He echoes the words of M. Leon Bourgeois, "I ask for patience, and not for skepticism." In his effort to compress into as few words as possible the essential facts about the League's operation since it began to function, he has brought forth a dry, hard, accurate narrative, valuable for reference purposes, but in nowise a persuasive "brief" for the League. Inasmuch as pressure of other news prevented the American public from getting full and accurate accounts of the League's Assembly's meeting at Geneva, this book's chronicle of what was done there, taken from the official records, will be valuable.

THE PRESS AND POLITICS IN JAPAN. By Kisaburo Kawabé. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago. Pp. 168.

This is the product of a "doctor" of the University of Chicago, aided by Japanese informants, and it will give the Occidental reader interested in international affairs, and especially in Japan's intellectual and political evolution, a better understanding of the swift rise to power of journalism in Nippon than he can find elsewhere in books. Half a century ago public opinion, whether expressed in journals or by debate in public forums, did not exist in Japan. Now independent and even radical journalism flourishes in the empire to an extent very disturbing to the Genro, the militarists, and the newly powerful rich. Journals keyed to the tastes and wishes of the rising proletariat have won large circulations. Democracy now challenges the dynasty, the rule of the military clans, and the industrial magnates.

Apart from the distinctly technical and national phases of journalism, there is much in this book that is pertinent at a time when governments as well as journalists throughout the world are facing very concrete problems as to freedom of communication of news and the veracity or non-veracity of such news as is transmitted. Japan's increasing control of cables in the Pacific and the perfection of her news-collecting and news-distribution agencies all figure in the solution of American and European disputes with Japan. Tokyo's censorship of news in times of peace as well as of war is far more drastic and nationalistic in purpose than many of Japan's critics really know, and it is a factor in the present anti-Japanese attitude of Europe's and America's leading journals. Moreover, it runs counter to the best Liberal sentiment in Japan and has its persistent critics there, including the United Journalists' Association.

This book is not without value as a summary of recent political and social changes in Japan, inasmuch as the author weaves his tale of journalistic evolution in with the ups and downs of all the later ministries and the clashing between the newly formed parties and their various factions.

THE VOICE OF JERUSALEM. By Israel Zangwill. The Macmillan Co., New York City. Pp. 367. \$3.00.

Brilliant, mordant, cynical and yet sympathetic, learned in ancient lore and piercing in his insight into contemporary

politics, Zangwill re-emerges in this book from an obscurity dating back before the war. One gets again the old compound of wit and pathos, idealism and realism, mockery and reverence, which characterizes "Without Prejudice" and "Dreamers of the Ghetto." In this book you have his *Apologia Sau Vita* as a Jew, as a mediator between a reformed Christianity and a reformed Judaism, as a champion of Zionism for those who want it, but for none others, and as a fierce critic of the Palestinian State under British mandate which the Peace Conference begat, and which, as he believes, a hostile Arab host within and without Palestine will sooner or later destroy.

Because this phase of the Versailles Treaty is dealt with unsparingly, this book would repay reading. But it has other attractions. In the light of rising anti-Semitism in Europe and the United States, it gains worth; for the Jew, as a Jew, here states his case against the Christian in a powerful way. H. G. Wells and Gilbert K. Chesterton, not to mention Henry Ford, have in this man a dangerous polemical opponent, horribly frank and disconcerting and cumulative in his array of facts. But he is impartial, like his Hebrew forerunners among the prophets. An idealist to his inmost marrow, he also flays his recreant vulgar, commercialized, lusting fellow-Jews even more terrifically than he does his hypocritical, medieval, feud-perpetuating Christian neighbors. His passion is for a kingdom of God on earth. And for Jesus as the preacher of this Gospel he has nothing but reverence. To a similar attitude he summons modern Jewry. Having done which he legitimately calls on institutional Christianity to do the same. Because nominally Christian nations betrayed this ideal at the Paris conference he is cynical; and it is difficult either to blame or to refute him.

GREAT MEN AND GREAT DAYS. By Stephen Lauzanne. D. Appleton & Co., New York City. Pp. 263. \$3.00.

The editor of *La Matin*, now in the country accompanying M. Viviani on his special mission to the United States, first visited the country when Joffre and Viviani came to the United States to induce the United States to enter the war as an "associate." Since his return to Paris, M. Lauzanne has used his journalistic power to serve national ends and to increase French prestige in international affairs. Naturally his contacts with Americans, both in Paris and in the United States, have given him knowledge that he has found useful in achieving his purposes; and the fact that France has again delegated him to act as a quasi-official representative would seem to indicate that he gets results that please the forces now in power in Paris.

This book is an effort to justify permanent inclusion in the Hall of Fame of France of Delcasse, the man who Prepared Victory; Marshal Joffre, the Father of Victory; Poincare, the President of Victory; Clemenceau, the Tiger, and Millerand, the present President of France. M. Lauzanne also ventures to interpret the Character of Woodrow Wilson, David Lloyd-George, Colonel E. M. House, and Theodore Roosevelt. He has not disclosed any depth of insight or any special cleverness in epithetical denunciation, save perhaps in calling the British Premier a "political eel." His anecdotes and his quotations of the sayings of contemporary men are valuable, as, for instance, Foch's analysis of Clemenceau as "a mixture of Victor Hugo and of Robespierre."

IT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU. By Coningsby Dawson. John Lane Co., New York City. Pp. 163.

This is a "contemporary portrait of central and eastern Europe" by a gifted British-American author with a reputation for cleverness and sympathetic insight as a war correspondent, a writer of novels and a poet. Rumor has it that it is the deliberate product of an assignment given by Mr. Hoover, and that it is expected to serve as a propaganda document for the American Relief Committee. The author's method of getting his tale across to the American reader is shrewd. Growsome facts as to famine, pestilence, rapine, and war are narrated; but there runs through the tale the incessant reminder that if you had been born in central or eastern Europe you also would have had to live